# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



# **PCT**



### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

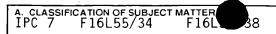
(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference		of Transmittal of International Search Report 220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/GB 03/05036	18/11/2003	23/11/2002
Applicant UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM		
according to Article 18. A copy is being tr  This International Search Report consists		
	international search was carried out on the baless otherwise indicated under this item.	ssis of the international application in the
the international search v Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).	vas carried out on the basis of a translation of	the international application furnished to this
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Certain claims were for 3. Unity of invention is lace	und unsearchable (See Box I). Sking (see Box II).	
= ''	ubmitted by the applicant. shed by this Authority to read as follows:	
the text has been establi	ubmitted by the applicant. shed, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Author e date of mailing of this international search re	rity as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, port, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the <b>drawings</b> to be put as suggested by the app because the applicant fa	licant.	None of the figures.

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#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/GB 03/05036



According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 - F16L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 01/23213 A (STUTCHBURY NEIL WILLIAM; UNIV DURHAM (GB); APPLETON ERNEST (GB)) 5 April 2001 (2001-04-05) cited in the application abstract; figure 1	1,2,5-11
A	FR 2 355 236 A (ROULAND DANIEL) 13 January 1978 (1978-01-13) page 2, line 6 - page 5, line 29; figures 1-6	1-6
A	US 6 415 722 B1 (REIS NEY ROBINSON SALVI DOS) 9 July 2002 (2002-07-09) column 9, line 44 - column 10, line 19; figures 1-3E	1,3-6
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents:  'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	<ul> <li>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</li> <li>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</li> <li>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</li> <li>*&amp;* document member of the same patent family</li> </ul>
Date of the actual completion of the international search 25 February 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 02/03/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tet. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: '+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Popescu, A

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International Application No
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Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Α	WO 86/01751 A (STORESUND PER) 27 March 1986 (1986-03-27) abstract; figure 1	1
4	abstract; figure 1  DE 200 00 804 U (EDER GERHARD) 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) abstract; figures 1-6	
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